

4-H Family Notes

2006 Fair Edition



Michigan State University Extension
Macomb County, Michigan

Thank You

Thank you to all those 4-Hers, 4-H clubs, and 4-H families that stepped up to the plate and helped in whatever way possible. People helped with the final clean up, set up of pens, cages and tables. Others were ring stewards, teen clerks, 4-H Fair Superintendents, or Day Chairs. And then there were those that helped with loading animals, project pick up and final tear down. Some helped monitor barns, some planted flowers, some helped at the 4-H Petting Farm.

Those that did not help missed the most important thing – the rekindling of existing friendships and the opportunities to make new ones. Just a reminder that help is needed in various facets. So check your emails/mail from Macomb MSU-Extension office, Fair Newsletters, or items from the 4-H Fair Committee. Schedules are always posted in all the 4-H barns during fair.

Armada Fair Results

4-H Club Displays - The barns were well represented by the 4-H clubs. The results of the club display entries were:

Exhibit Barn – 1st Trail Blazers; 2nd Clever Clovers; 3rd Mini, Mighty & All Goats – 1st Northern Macomb

Poultry – 1st Northern Macomb; 2nd School Section; 3rd Lenox Leprechauns

Rabbits – 1st Lenox Leprechauns; 2nd School Section; 3rd Northern Macomb

Sheep – 1st Alarro; 2nd Green Acres; 3rd Almont Livestock

Swine – 1st Northern Macomb; 2nd Alarro; 3rd School Section

Dairy – 1st Alarro

Beef – 1st Kids-N-Kritters; 2nd Alarro; 3rd Clever Clovers

Horse – 1st Washington Raiders; 2nd Just-For-Fun; 3rd A Little Tacky

4-H Livestock Auction – The 4-H Livestock auction is always a highlight of the Armada Agricultural Society Fair, but this year, the auction was extra special with two queens, complete with tiaras showing their animals. Miss Armada, Ashley Kushel, showed her 1,380 pound steer. Kuschels' steer was the class 5 champion and brought \$3 per pound at the auction. 4-H King, Paul Miller raised the 1,295 pound grand champion steer which brought \$4 per pound. Jenna Lotan, 4-H Queen, showed one hog weighing 239 pounds and another hog at 248 pounds. Her hogs sold for \$3.10 per pound.

4-H Shows (Overall Showmanship) -

Goats – Jenna Lotan (Northern Macomb)

Rabbits – Jessica Makowski (Northern Macomb)

Swine – Laura Bettcher (Ray Community)

Sheep – Jessica Walsh (Green Acres)

Beef – Ashley Kushel (Kids N Kritters)

Dairy – Jessica Bohm (Ray Community)

4-H Exhibits (Grand Best of Show) - Senior: Nick Knust (Northern Macomb); Intermediate: Shelby Motoligin; Junior: Matthew Cobbett (Clever Clovers).

The Important Things Are Not Ribbons

There once was a boy, won ribbons, mostly blue
Came home from the fair, with a big trophy too.
With a voice glad and proud, he said to his dad,
"Tis the very best year that I've ever had."
Said his very wise dad, "Son, I'd like to hear,
Why you think this was such a fine year."

"Why, Dad, you know, all the prizes I've won;
How I've come out on top, in most things I've done.
Just look at the ribbons that hang on my wall
And think of the money I've made since last fall.
From the premium checks, and a big auction price
You can't help but think cash and ribbons are nice."

But the man said, "My son, you're not thinking right,
Blue ribbons, 'tis true are better than white;
But ribbons will fade and trophies grow old,
Money's soon spent, and fame soon grows cold.
The important things, son, are not ribbons or pins,
And sometimes it's really the loser who wins;
Now here are the things, most important, it's true
Your 4-H experience has accomplished for you."

"You've seen how a business meeting is run
This knowledge will help you in years to come.
You've conquered the fear of addressing a crowd,
You've learned how to stand up and talk nice and loud."

"Patience you've learned, in your projects, too,
As well as your skills, that will always help you.
You've learned how to lose, without making a 'beef'
You know the judge judges on her best belief.
You've learned how to win, without boasting too loud,
A kid can lose friends, if he's overly proud."

"These are the things, most
important to you.
You'll remember and use
them all your life through.
They'll help you become a
mighty fine man,
They'll do more for you, than
any prize can."

-- Anonymous



4-H King and Queen Crowned



Paul Miller and Jenna Lotan,
2006 4-H King and Queen.

During opening ceremonies held Tuesday, August 15th, Stephanie Goike, 4-H Superintendent introduced last year's King and Queen, Paul Gianferrara of School Section and Lucy Cooper of Mini, Mighty & All. Stephanie then introduced the 5 King Contestants and 11 Queen Contestants. Congratulations to all who participated in this year's King and Queen contest:

King: Paul Miller, Kids-N-Kritters

Queen: Jenna Lotan, Northern Macomb

1st runner up: Chris Tibbits, School Section

1st runner up: Ashley Cerku, Midnite Riders

2nd runner up: Christopher Cooper, Mini, Mighty & All

2nd runner up: Katie Houin, Ray's Riding Rascals

Sarah Dubay, Just for Fun

Blair Goodmen, Alarro

Andrea Hill, Macomb Mavericks

Lorna Jackson, Ray Community

Renee Kolleth, K-9 & Kompany

Megan Miller, Kids-N-Kritters

Lauren Rossi, Mini, Mighty & All

John Sexton, Northern Macomb

Lisa Stewart, School Section

Samantha VanFleteren, Alarro



After the ceremonies, the court, family, friends, 4-H Court Superintendents, and even some judges attended a Recognition Banquet held at Coon Creek. After many photo opportunities, dinner and intermingling, the King and Queen and 4-H Court each had an opportunity to practice their public speaking skills by giving a short speech. A special thanks goes to each of the 4-H Superintendents, Stephanie Goike, Mary Goike, and Katie Laudicina for all their hard work and Armada Schools for donating a bus.

Miss Armada Values 4-H

By being in 4-H, I have learned so many great qualities that help me in everything I do. Leadership, teamwork and the ability to speak to people are just some characteristics 4-H have instilled upon me that came in handy when I was running for Miss Armada.

4-H has also taught me how to be calm during an interview and how to show I have good values. Because this organization is becoming so well known, when people hear that I am in 4-H, they automatically know that I am a hard worker, team player, and a well rounded person.

Ashley Kuschel, Kids-N-Kritters

4-H Royalty Participate in Romeo Peach Festival Parade

The 2006 Romeo Peach Festival Floral Parade was held on Labor Day. Macomb County's 4-H King/Queen Court was the 64th entry in the parade with a float. The truck and trailer for the parade were provided by the Knust Family (Northern Macomb 4-H Club). Decorations were put together by the court, their families and club members, as well as Katie Laudicina (4-H Fair Superintendent for the 4-H Court). Appearing on the float in formal wear were: 4-H King - Paul Miller (Kids-N-Kritters); 4-H Queen - Jenna Lotan (Northern Macomb); 1st Runner Ups - Chris Tibbits (School Section) & Ashley Cerku (Midnite Riders); 2nd Runner Up - Chris Cooper (Mini, Mighty & All); Court members - Lauren Rossi (Mini, Mighty & All), Megan Miller (Kids-N-Kritters), Renee Kolleth (K-9 Kompany), Sarah Dubay (Just for Fun), Andrea Hill (Macomb Mavericks). 4-H Court members (not present due to prior commitments) were: John Sexton (Northern Macomb), Lisa Stewart (School Section), Samantha VanFleteren (Alarro), Blair Goodmen (Alarro), Katie Houin - 2nd Runner Up (Ray's Riding Rascals), Lorna Jackson (Ray Community). Walkers with the float were Ryan Cerku (Midnite Riders) and Stephanie Seefried (Northern Macomb).

They passed out candy and 4-H information to the parade spectators. Carrying the banner "4-H Lights the Way to Reach for the Stars" were Kara Lotan and Crystal Knust (both

from Northern Macomb). 4-H parents passing out MSU Extension brochures were Ms. Rossi, Ms. Dubay, Ms. Cerku and Mr. Cerku. Ms. Lotan was photographer for the court. Cable Channel 6 was telecasting the parade live.

The 4-H Court also participated in Richmond's Good Old Days Invitational Grand Parade on Sunday, September 10th. The 4-H Court's club members were also on hand to walk with the float.



Members of the 2006 4-H Court represented Macomb County 4-H at the Romeo Peach Festival and Richmond Good Old Days parades in early September. Pictured from left to right are: Ashley Cerku, Lauren Rossi, Renee Kolleth, Chris Cooper, Jenna Lotan, Paul Miller, Chris Tibbits, Sarah Dubay, Andrea Hill, and Megan Miller.

4-Hers Comment on 2006 Armada Fair

Armada Fair Dog Show Explained

At the 2006 Armada Fair, many young 4-Hers and their dogs participated in the dog show. The events at the show consisted of agility, showmanship and obedience.

Agility, is guiding your dog through a course of obstacles while competing for the fastest time. Showmanship is an event that focuses mostly on the handler, the person that shows the dog. The judge pays close attention to make sure that the handler has good control of their dog. Also, that they are enjoying that their training and hard work will pay off.

Obedience is when the dogs are judged on how well they listen to commands from their handler and are on their best behavior. This means no sniffing, barking, or running out of the ring. The 4-Hers ended the dog show proud of their accomplishments looking forward to next year's Armada Fair.

Anna Rode, Northern Macomb

Years as a Member Inspire Youth to Volunteer

My name is Nick Knust, I am 19 years old, and I received the senior grand best of show at the 2006 Armada Fair. My entry was working wooden models of a combine, articulating tractor, and a grain cart. This project was done completely without a kit and every part was handmade. I have received this award three times in the past and was very honored to receive it in my final year as a 4-H member.

Starting this year I will be a 4-H volunteer teaching woodworking and rocketry. I hope to teach future 4-H members the many woodworking and leadership skills that I have learned throughout my years as a 4-H member.

Nick Knust, Northern Macomb

Member Enjoys 4-H, First Year Showing Swine

The swine show at the fair this year was a success. This was my first year showing and I had a blast! I will definitely show for years to come because I made so many friends.

Showing swine or any animal for that matter is a great responsibility but a lot of fun at the same time. I learned a lot about my animal and myself while I was raising my pigs and when I was showing them. It takes a lot of time, patience, and responsibility to show animals but it is always worth it in the end. The most important thing that showing has taught me is that winning is not everything and the journey and the friends you make is what really matters.

The auction was new to me and it was very exciting at the same time. It made me very nervous to go into the ring in front of all the people, but once I heard people bidding for my pigs I was very happy. It was a great experience for me and I cannot wait for next year to do it all over again!

Crystal Knust, Northern Macomb

Judge Appreciated

The 2006 Armada Fair hog show was a big success. The judge this year was Al Snedegar and he was one of the best I have ever had. He took time to help the kids and show them what 4-H is about, having fun and making friends.

If I could change one thing about the fair it would be that we need more young kids to participate with livestock. In conclusion, I feel the 2006 Armada Fair Hog show was a great success.

Steven Riebel, Hidden Trails

Judging Day at the Armada Fair

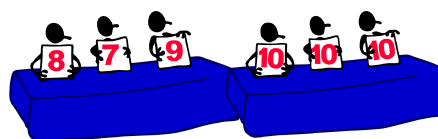
The Armada Fair is a very exciting time for Macomb County 4-H members, as everything they have done throughout the entire year has been geared towards it. Judging day is especially chaotic, as all 4-Hers are gathered together in one place, each with all their projects in tow. Some have only one or two crafts, while others have whole wagons full, and for them judging is a whole-day affair. I

have participated in this yearly event five times, and each year is a new experience. My father is the Superintendent for Department X, and I serve as his Teen Clerk. Serving as Teen Clerk can be an exhaustive job, as it entails doing anything any superintendent or judge needs done. Among other jobs, Clerks run projects back and forth from the judge's tent to the barn, and stand on tables to hang posters and other 4-H creations. In short, they never have a chance to sit down. Clerks and Judges alike have to come to the fairgrounds earlier than everyone else, so that Clerks have a chance for the judges to see what they have been working on before the real crowds arrive.

I entered only two projects this year, two shooting sports posters, and received a Best of Show for each. While being judged, kids have the opportunity to display what they have created, and tell the judge all about it. This can include how they went about building it, what gave them the idea, why they choose to use certain colors or materials, and if they had fun and would enjoy doing it again.

I also had the opportunity to judge a little myself, due to a need for an extra person to review projects in the writing category. I read several research papers, stories, and poems and listened to their writers explain their writing processes and reasons for their topics. I was even able to award one girl a Best of Show for her collection of poems. Although I was slightly nervous, I enjoyed the experience, and look forward for an opportunity to do it again.

By Heidi Jenuwine, School Section





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Thoughts About the 4-H Petting Farm

We all know that the 4-H Petting Farm serves a useful and educational purpose for those who visit, but has anyone ever wondered how it benefits the youth volunteers whose hard work helps make it what it is? Here's what we heard from a few members of Trail Blazers 4-H Club:

"The Petting Farm has taught me how to work with animals *and* people."

Joshua DuBaere

"This year, the Petting Farm was large and the crowd liked the animals. It shows the kids how to hold animals properly."

Jordan DuBaere

"The Petting Farm teaches the youth members responsibility and how to work with the public."

Jake DuBaere

Fair Book Changes

Any changes need to be presented and approved at the appropriate 4-H Program Committee. For example, if you have a suggested change or correction in a livestock department, then you will need to submit a written report on the recommended change along with why you are making the recommendation. That report should go to the 4-H Livestock

Program Committee in September/October. That way it will give that committee sufficient time to review the recommendation and vote on it before being submitted to Macomb MSU-Agent, who will then take it to the Fair Board meeting in November. Contact Kathy Jamieson if you have questions on this process.

Homemaker of the Year

JoEllen Clark of Riley Township, a 4-H leader with Alarro 4-H Club, is the 2006 Armada Fair Homemaker of the Year. The award was given at the Armada Fair on Tuesday, August 15th. Clark submitted open-class entries in the Food Preservation,

Food Preparation, Floriculture Arrangements, Domestic Arts and Arts, Crafts and Hobbies categories. Contestants must receive ribbons for each project entered to be eligible for the Homemaker of the Year Award. Congratulations, JoEllen!

2006 4-H Livestock Champions

Chickens—Fryers

Grand Champion Pen: Rachel Drinkhorn
Reserve Grand Champion Pen: John Sexton

Chickens—Roasters

Grand Champion Pen: Ryan Marcat
Reserve Grand Champion Pen: Jacob VanDeWater

Ducks

Grand Champion Pen: Mark Sweeney
Reserve Grand Champion Pen: Joshua Eckhout

Geese

Grand Champion Pen: Jacob DuBaere
Reserve Grand Champion Pen: Joshua Eckhout

Turkeys

Grand Champion Pen: Christopher Wesolowski
Reserve Grand Champion Pen: Shelby Motoligin

Rabbits—Fryers

Grand Champion Pen: Christopher Wesolowski
Reserve Grand Champion Pen: Chris Tibbits

Rabbits—Bakers

Grand Champion Pen: John Sexton
Reserve Grand Champion Pen: Joseph Brickel

Supreme Champion Cow - One Gallon of Milk

Jessica Bohm

Hogs

Grand Champion Individual: Steven Riebel
Reserve Grand Champion: Chris Drinkhorn
Grand Champion Pen: Steven Riebel
Reserve Grand Champion Pen: Chris Drinkhorn

Lambs

Grand Champion: Gina Riebel
Reserve Grand Champion: Joshua Long
Grand Champion Pen: Gina Riebel
Reserve Grand Champion Pen: Joshua Long

Goats

Grand Champion: Megan Senyk
Reserve Grand Champion: Kara Lotan
Grand Champion Pen: Megan Senyk
Reserve Grand Champion Pen: Kara Lotan

Steers

Grand Champion: Paul Miller
Reserve Grand Champion: Corey Kasperski

Livestock Sale Annual Elections

The Livestock Sale Committee will be holding their annual elections at their October 23rd meeting. The meeting starts at 7 p.m. and will be held at the Armada High School. There are both youth and adult positions available. Adults who serve on the committee must be screened volunteers.

The committee meets six times a year as well as coordinates livestock tagging, Friday 4-H Auctions, and sale check distribution. Come support the sale by running for office or membership on this worthwhile committee.